

MR2863-154

Serial Number: 10/791,882

Reply to Office Action dated 2 December 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached drawing sheet includes a change to FIG. 1 and replaces the original drawing sheet that had FIG. 1 thereon. In FIG. 1, the duplication of reference number "21" has been corrected.

Attachment: One Replacement sheet.

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REMARKS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Office Action dated 2 December 2005. Responsive to the Office Action, Claims 1, 3 and 4 have been amended to clarify the combination of elements that form the invention of the Subject Patent Application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawing of FIG. 1 under 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(4) because the reference number "21" was used to designate both the adapting head of the barred body and the ball coupling. Accordingly a replacement drawing sheet correcting the reference numerals is attached hereto.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Nehls, U.S. Patent No. 4,822,199 in view of Bieg, U.S. Patent No. 5,901,936, and Gugliotta, U.S. Patent No. 4,161,088. However, the Examiner kindly indicated that Claims 2 - 4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

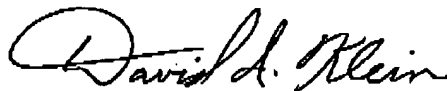
Accordingly, Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of Claim 2 therein. Thus, Claim 2 has effectively been placed in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim, Claim 1, and any intervening claims, which there were none. Thus, Claim 1 should now be allowable. Claims 3

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and 4 have been amended to place those claims in independent form by the addition of the limitations of Claim 1 therein, and should now be allowable.

It is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Art Unit #3632, at (571) 273-8300, on the date shown below.

For: ROSENBERG, KLEIN & LEE


DAVID I. KLEIN

3/2/2006
Date